

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
JUNIOR CITY COUNCIL PROGRAM
Winter/Spring 2017**

About the Program: The Junior Council Program is designed to provide participants with an overview of city government. This will be accomplished through 12 weeks of workshops and council meetings whereby participants will meet professionals in civil service careers, understand department responsibilities to the people of Bridgeport and experience first-hand the valuable role city council members play in representing their respective constituents and bringing about positive change.

Eligibility: Participants must be Bridgeport residents who are in their Sophomore, Junior, or Senior year of high school. Out of school youth are also eligible to apply but must be 16 years of age or older.

Selection Process: Once an application is received, brief interviews will be conducted to ensure both the applicant and the program director feel confident in the applicant's ability to fulfill program expectations.

12 Week Overview:

1. ***Weeks 1-2*** - Focus will be on an overview of city government and council responsibilities. Selected participants will attend a meet and greet dinner with City Council members, prior to beginning their first "shadowing" experience. The youth will be assigned to the councilperson of their respective district.
2. ***Weeks 3, 4, and 5*** - Tour various offices at the Bridgeport City Hall and the Margaret Morton Government Center, including the Mayor's office. Enjoy second council meeting and be prepared to observe, take notes, and ask questions.
3. ***Weeks 6 –9-*** Participants continue their "shadowing" experience during council meetings, have the opportunity to visit our State Capitol and tour the Emergency Operations Center in Bridgeport, including the 911 call center, where all emergency calls are handled.
4. ***Weeks 10, 11, and 12-*** Participants continue their "shadowing" experience during the council meetings, tour Bridgeport Police & Fire Department Headquarters, and get an overview of youth services, summer jobs, working papers, and college/career opportunities.
5. ***June 5th, 2017 will be the Awards Presentation Day for all participants, pizza & soft drinks will be served.***

For more information, please contact Lisa.Miro@bridgeportct.gov or the Lighthouse Youth Services Department at 203-576-7048.